

May 18, 1977

LB 540

behind me, Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: That is the one with the one fifth of the quad which is in yellow?

SENATOR MILLS: No, that part that is in yellow are the existing walls of the penitentiary.

SENATOR BARNETT: That is right. I am thinking of the reformatory quad. That is what I am thinking of with that other pod that was added on. All right. What you are trying to do is give them money to do what?

SENATOR MILLS: This is a new program.

SENATOR BARNETT: You want to start new construction at the penitentiary?

SENATOR MILLS: That is right. This is a new program, and in fact the Appropriations Committee is saving the same thing only they are doing it a different way and I don't know where their program statement is for what they are trying to do or their blue print of what they are trying to do with the 120 beds that are being added on to the "T" dorm.

SENATOR BARNETT: Okay, so what you want to do is you want to start building the new penitentiary complex and we will be then starting the reformatory complex and we will be starting something in Omaha if they can get the land problem settled.

SENATOR MILLS: That is right. That money is already appropriated. Senator Marsh told you about that.

SENATOR BARNETT: And the diagnostic center also will be under construction?

SENATOR MILLS: That is right.

SENATOR BARNETT: And we will be doing all of this within months if you amendment is adopted?

SENATOR MILLS: No, no, it can't be months, Senator Barnett, because I understand, someone told me yesterday, that the land has been purchased in Omaha but look how far, that was in 1975 we passed 417 and they have just let the bids on the Lincoln reformatory so it is not going to be a month. It will probably take several years to get all of this going.

SENATOR BARNETT: How long do you think it will take to start construction on the penitentiary, the new walls, the new quarters, if your amendment passed?

SENATOR MILLS: Let me answer it another way. I will answer it in a question that if my amendment doesn't pass, they can go ahead and build a 120 thing and there probably will not be anything else done there.

SENATOR BARNETT: The addition to the "T" dorm you are talking about?

SENATOR MILLS: The addition to the "T" dorm was not even

04671